

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1907.

THE COUNTY ELECTION.

This paper has from time to time made mention of the candidates for county office so that the voters might have a chance to inform themselves as to the qualifications of the various candidates. We do not believe that a man ought to vote blindly for whatever he finds on his ticket, but he should exercise the same degree of judgment in selecting public officials that he would exercise if he were engaging a man to work on his ranch, his farm or in his store. If you hire a foreman for your ranch you do not trouble yourself about politics. What you want to know is: Is he able to do the work; will he do it in a satisfactory manner, and will he be honest and fair in his dealings with you. If you are satisfied that he is capable, honest and reliable you do not care what his opinion may be on the tariff. Why not exercise the same business judgment in selecting men to fill the public offices? By placing no one in the field against Mr. Keeley, for clerk; Mr. Armstrong, for treasurer; Miss Kortz, for superintendent, and Mr. Russell, for commissioner in the second district, we recognized their capable service in the past and concede their claim to a re-election. They are all republicans, but good officers, and ought to be re-elected. If you want capable men in the clerk's office and the treasurer's office why not put capable men in the sheriff's office, the judge's office and the assessor's office. Taking it for granted that Mr. Keeley will be re-elected clerk; Mr. Armstrong re-elected treasurer, and Miss Kortz re-elected superintendent, and Mr. Russell re-elected commissioner of the second district, it narrows the contested offices down to five.

For the office of sheriff we have nominated Clyde A. Rosseter of Barley precinct. Mr. Rosseter is just in the prime of life. He has seen ten years of active life on a Cherry county ranch, having lived that long at his present home, ten miles south of Cody. This is long enough to give his neighbors a chance to form an estimate of the man, and from men of all parties comes the highest praise. You cannot go into any home in his precinct and hear a word of criticism for him. Everyone testifies to his sober, industrious life. He has shown his good business ability by starting in life a poor boy without capital and working his way through school and finally graduating from the Chadron academy. Upon leaving school he struck out on his own account and went into the sand hills south of Cody and by industry and economy has built up a substantial ranch. He built a home for himself and his family, and now, though still a young man, he has enough of this world's goods to be reasonably independent. It took pluck and industry to do this and it took good judgment, too. While others were waiting around for something to turn up so they might make a living without work, he took hold and carved out his own fortune. This is the first time he ever was a candidate for office. He has been content to remain upon his ranch, and he would be content to remain there, but there is no school in that locality, and no prospect of getting one, and his children are of school age and he wishes to give them school advantages. This is the reason he became a candidate for this office and the vote he received in his own precinct, and in the adjoining precincts, at the primaries, shows that his neighbors are anxious to help him attain his ambition. The Cody Cow Boy, a republican paper, in commenting on his campaign, said: "If he should be elected he will run the office without graft or dishonor in any form." This, from a republican editor who has known Mr. Rosseter personally for more than a dozen years, is just what you hear from every man who knows him.



Clyde A. Rosseter

THE OLD SOLDIER CANDIDATE M. F. Clynes, of River Precinct, candidate for county judge on the democratic ticket, is the only old soldier running for office this fall. For a good many years this office has been conceded to the old soldiers, and, when the late Judge Towne died, they looked around for another veteran to take his place and Mr. Clynes appealed to the public because of his educational and superior mental abilities. Although old enough to go out with the first call that President Lincoln made for volunteers, he is still vigorous mentally and physically, and few people, at first sight, take him to be old enough to have seen four years service in the Civil War. He has always had something

of the aggressive disposition that has conquered the west. As a boy he was among the first to enlist, and, when the war was over, he started west and was among the first settlers of Cherry county. He is one of the pioneers and has always taken an interest in public affairs, although he has not been a seeker after office. If left to his own inclinations he probably would never have entered the race, but it seemed appropriate that an old soldier should be selected to fill the office so long held by Judge Towne, and Mr. Clynes' friends knowing of his superior education, his good judgment and his strict integrity, prevailed upon him to become a candidate. Judging by the assurances that come to him from old comrades and old friends, democrats and republicans alike, it would seem as though he would be elected by a handsome majority on election day. Not only vote for him yourself, but speak to your neighbor and make sure that he goes through with the same handsome majority that Judge Towne used to receive.

COUNTY ASSESSOR For this office we have placed in nomination P. H. Young of Cleveland precinct. Mr. Young came to this county several years ago and bought the old Morgareidge ranch near Simeon. Later he bought the Burleigh ranch that adjoined his own, and, welding the two together, he formed one of the best equipped ranches in the county. He was fortunate enough in his youth to be favored with an excellent education, and nature furnished him with a strong body and a bright mind. Perhaps few men have made a more favorable showing in the stock business than he. He is a good judge of real estate and a good judge of live stock. His mind is keen, bright and alert, and he will bring to this office a combination of education and natural ability that is so essential to its successful administration. He is sober, industrious and painstaking and one of the most agreeable of men to meet. He not only knows you when he is a candidate for office but he knows you all the year round. While attending strictly to business he always has time to exchange ideas, and, if he is the next county assessor, you are sure of courteous and efficient service. This office is an important one. The man that fills it acceptably must be alert and keen enough to detect the tax dodgers and to see that the deputies appointed will do their work faithfully and impartially between one section of the county and another, and between one taxpayer and another. No man stands higher in his community than does Mr. Young. Ask any business man in Valentine; ask any man in Simeon, or any man in Cleveland precinct and you will be convinced that those who know him have the utmost confidence in him and are ready to support him for this office.



P. H. Young

COUNTY COMMISSIONER As the board of county commissioners stands at present it is solidly republican. When one party gets an absolute hold on any public board it has a tendency to build up a little machine that will dominate its own party, and, through it, dominate the whole community. This fact is so well recognized that in many of the states it is provided by law that there shall be minority representation on public boards. The minority member may be no more reliable than his associates, but it has a tendency to make the doings of the board public and to give the people a chance to know what is going on behind the scenes. If contracts are let to political favorites the minority member is there to expose it; if graft in any form is found the minority member is there to advertise it for political effect if for nothing else, and the public is thus protected against the clique that might otherwise dominate the county. There ought to be minority representation on the board in this county, and for this reason James Mone of Cody, the democratic candidate of the third district, should be elected. Let it be remembered that, although he is running in the third district, still, the whole party votes on the office. No matter what precinct you are in, you have the right to vote on commissioner in both the Second and Third district. Mr. Mone is the democratic candidate in the Third district and Mr. Russell is the republican candidate in the Second district. No matter what district you may live in you can still vote for both.

COUNTY CORONER The office of coroner does not, as a rule, attract very much attention, and still there is every reason why men should select the best for this office the same as for the others. In putting up a ticket we endeavored to select men that could poll, not only their party vote, but who would also command the respect of the opposition. Dr. A. N. Compton, our candidate for coroner, is not a politician. He is content to devote his best efforts to his profession of medicine and surgery, but the office of coroner is one usually given to the medical profession and oftentimes there is a decided advantage in having a physician in this position. Dr. Compton has been engaged in the practice of his profession in this village for nine years, and it is probably not saying too much to say that he has long stood at the head of his profession. His old patients are his most loyal supporters, and their friendship and confidence would seem to be the best guarantee of his worth as a physician, and as a man.

COUNTY SURVEYOR John W. McDaniel, the democratic candidate for surveyor, has no opposition and is therefore sure of re-election, but we believe his services in the office are satisfactory and that he ought to be given a complimentary vote, just to show him that his good worth is appreciated by his fellow citizens.

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The Stock Exchange,

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